

and love. The best way to defeat an ideology of darkness is to spread the light of hope.

And that's exactly what we're doing. So, to my fellow citizens, I not only say it's in our moral interest to help; it's in our strategic interests to help defeat these ideologues who murder the innocent to achieve their political objectives.

America is fully committed to this mission of mercy. The United States of America is doing the right thing, and your Government and the people of this country are showing their kindness and compassion and decency. Any American who wants to become involved in this mission can go to fightingmalaria.gov. It's pretty easy. All you got to do is type in fightingmalaria.gov, and you can find out how you can help a worthy and noble and necessary cause.

I thank you for coming and giving me a chance to explain our initiative. God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:44 a.m. at the Northwest Boys & Girls Club. In his remarks, he referred to Roxanne Spillett, president and chief executive officer, Boys & Girls Clubs of America; entertainer Melinda Doolittle; and Samuel S. Gray, Jr., president and chief executive officer, Boys & Girls Clubs of Hartford, Inc.

Proclamation 8246—Malaria Awareness Day, 2008

April 25, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On Malaria Awareness Day, our Nation recognizes all who suffer from this devastating disease, and we remember the lives lost to an illness that is entirely preventable and treatable. Today, we renew our commitment to lead the world toward the urgent goal and noble mission of turning the tide against malaria in Africa and around the world.

My Administration and our partners are working together to save lives in Africa

through the President's Malaria Initiative. On a recent trip to Africa, First Lady Laura Bush and I personally saw this Initiative working and making incredible progress against malaria. By distributing insecticide-treated bed nets, expanding indoor insecticide spraying, providing cutting-edge drugs to those in need, and empowering African leaders to determine the best strategy for their country, we have brought an extraordinary achievement within reach: together, we can eradicate a disease that has claimed the lives of children for centuries. Millions of lives are being saved because of the kindness and generosity of the American people, and we will continue to work to ensure that our aggressive and comprehensive strategy achieves its goal.

America is a compassionate country that feeds the hungry and protects the vulnerable because we believe every human life has inherent dignity and matchless value. As the people of Africa continue their struggle against malaria, we offer our support and steadfast commitment. We call on all nations to join us in a great humanitarian effort.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2008, as Malaria Awareness Day. I encourage Americans to answer the universal call to love a neighbor and join in our goal of eliminating malaria on the African continent and elsewhere.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., April 28, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on April 29.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

April 19

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

April 20

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.

April 21

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. He then traveled to New Orleans, LA, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Audrey Browder.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to the Windsor Court Hotel.

In the evening, the President traveled to Commander's Palace restaurant, where he participated in a dinner and entertainment with President Felipe de Jesus Calderon Hinojosa of Mexico and Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada. Later, he returned to the Windsor Court Hotel.

The White House announced that the President will meet with King Abdullah II of Jordan at the White House on April 23.

April 22

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Dooky Chase's Restaurant, where he had breakfast with President Felipe de Jesus Calderon Hinojosa of Mexico and Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada. Then, he traveled to Gallier Hall, where he met with the North American Competitiveness Council.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Lafayette Square, where he, President Calderon, and Prime Minister Harper participated in a tree planting ceremony in honor of Earth Day. Later, he traveled to Baton Rouge, LA, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Randy Raggio. Then, at a private residence, he attended a Kennedy Majority Committee reception.

Later in the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC, arriving in the evening.

The President announced the designation of the following individuals as members of a Presidential delegation to Belfast, Northern Ireland, to attend the U.S.-Northern Ireland Investment Conference: Paula J. Dobriansky (head of delegation); Robert H. Tuttle; Thomas C. Foley; Michael R. Bloomberg; David Scott; and Catherine Brune.

The President announced his intention to nominate C. Steven McGann to be Ambassador to Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu.

The President announced his intention to nominate Christine O. Hill to be Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Congressional Affairs).

The President announced his intention to nominate Jeffrey Leigh Sedgwick to be Assistant Attorney General (Office of Justice Programs) at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate T. Vance McMahan to be an Alternate Representative of the United States to the Sessions of the United Nations General Assembly during his tenure of service as the U.S. Representative on the Economic and Social Council to the United Nations.

April 23

In the morning, in the Private Dining Room, the President had breakfast with King Abdullah II of Jordan. Later, he had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with Johns Hopkins Hospital organ donors and recipients. Later, also in the Oval Office, he participated in a photo opportunity with recipients of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

April 24

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President-elect Fernando Lugo of Paraguay to congratulate him on his April 21 election victory and discuss Paraguay-U.S. relations. He then had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced his intention to nominate Kristen Silverberg to be Representative of the United States to the European Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.